

## Message Text

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73

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 SCCT-01 FBO-02 A-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /035 W  
----- 070106

R 131133Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5134

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NOUAKCHOTT 0350

ABIDJAN FOR RSO; DAKAR FOR FBO KARR

SY FOR DIKEOS; S/CCT FOR FEAREY; FBO FOR RALSTON; AF/EX  
FOR KRYZA

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A DECONTROL 28 FEBRUARY 1#38

TAGS: ASEC ABLD AFSP MR FR

SUBJECT: NOUAKCHOTT PERIMETER WALLS

REF: 75 NOUAKCHOTT 2641 (NOTAL), 75 NOUAKCHOTT 1375 (NOTAL),  
NOUAKCHOTT 319 (NOTAL), ALGIERS 359 (NOTAL)

1. THE FACT THAT THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT FOR PURELY POLITICAL  
PURPOSES HAS CHOSEN TO EXAGGERATE A SERIOUS BUT LIMITED SECURITY  
PROBLEM INTO A MAJOR PUBLIC ORDER ISSUE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE  
ALLOWED TO OBSCURE ONE OF THE BASIC FACTS OF THE FRENCH CASE:  
THERE IS NO PERIMTER WALL AROUND THE LARGE FRENCH EMBASSY OFFICE  
BUILDING/RESIDENCE COMPOUND, AND HENCE THERE IS NO WAY TO CONTROL  
INFILTRATORS WITH MALICIOUS INTENT. THE TWO FORCED ENTRIES ON  
TWO SUCCESSIVE NIGHTS LAST WEEK RESULTED IN A VANDALIZED OFFICE  
AND A BURNED OUT ROOM IN A RESIDENCE. IN ADDITION  
TO THESE MOST RECENT INCIDENTS, THERE HAVE BEEN A  
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SERIES OF SUCCESSFUL BREAKING AND ENTERING ROBBERIES

ON THE FRENCH COMPOUND--TWELVE DURING CALENDAR YEAR  
1975.

2. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR HAS TAKEN EVERY POSSIBLE  
OCCASION SINCE HIS ARRIVAL HERE TWO AND A HALF YEARS  
AGO TO REITERATE THE NEED FOR A PERIMETER WALL AND TO  
PRESS PARIS FOR THE FUNDS REQUIRED. PARIS HAS CON-  
SISTENTLY TURNED A DEAF EAR.

3. SO FAR THE U.S. MISSION IN NOUAKCHOTT HAS BEEN  
LUCKY. NO ONE OF MALICIOUS INTENT HAS YET STEPPED OVER  
OUR NOW TWENTY-TWO INCH HIGH COMPOUND PERIMETER WALL. BUT FOUR  
MONTHS OF GOOD FORTUNE (SEE 75 NOUAKCHOTT 2194--NOTAL) DO NOT  
GUARANTEE FUTURE TRANQUILITY. I KNOW THAT THE USG, UNLIKE THE GOF,  
IS NOT DEAF ON THE SUBJECT OF PERIMETER WALLS, BUT THE WHEELS  
OF THE USG SURELY GRIND EXCEEDINGLY SLOW.HANDYSIDE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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